

Creating the area-weighted average PM2.5, accounting for different buffer sizes of PM monitors

- 1) Merge monitor information (area coverage) from AQS database with monitors in PM2.5 dataset – by state, county, tract, site ID, and POC (unique at this level)
- 2) Now have PM2.5 dataset with monitor area information. Create buffers based on area coverage information.
- 3) For each day, get the intersection between these monitors to see how many of them overlap one another. Rename n.overlaps as buffer_overlaps, origins as buffer_origins. We do this because we're doing another intersection that would overwrite these variables.
- 4) Now, we want to aggregate (get area-weighted average) PM2.5 at the census tract level. To do this, for each day, do an intersection between the monitor intersections (3) and census tract shapefile.
 - a. Create a monitor_count variable (count of monitors that a census tract intersects with in a given day).
 - b. For census tracts covered by only 1 monitor in a day (monitor_count=1), PM2.5 is as is.
 - c. For those covered by 2 or more monitors in a day (monitor_count>1):
 - i. If buffers don't overlap (buffer_overlaps=1 or =2). Get area covered by each monitor, sum to get the aggregate.
 - Weight of each monitor value (per day): $\text{Weight} = \frac{\text{int_area}}{\text{agg_area}}$
 - $\text{wgtd PM2.5} = PM_1 \left(\frac{\text{int area}_1}{\text{agg area}} \right) + PM_2 \left(\frac{\text{int area}_2}{\text{agg area}} \right) + \dots + PM_n \left(\frac{\text{int area}_n}{\text{agg area}} \right)$
 - ii. If buffers overlap (buffer_overlaps>2),
 - Weight of each monitor value (per day): $\text{Weight} = \frac{\text{int_area}}{\text{agg_area}}$
 - If the overlap is not fully overlapped (i.e. when monitor buffers do not have same geometry/size/area and long/lat):
 - a. Intersected shape has 1 or 2 buffer origins (implies only 1 of the multiple monitors covers the specific intersection), PM2.5 is as is
 - b. For parts of intersected shape that has more than 2 buffer origins (implies many buffers cover that intersection), need to get the simple average PM2.5 value of those monitors
 - i. R assigns only 1 PM value for that shape, so we need to find the other monitor(/s) that covers the shape and get their mean
 - ii. We start by unnesting the buffer_origins by date and tract. We do this for monitor_count>1 (include buffer_overlap==2 since they usually contain the other PM2.5 value we need to get the average).
 - iii. Aggregate the unnested subset by tract, date, and buff_origin. By doing this, we get the averaged PM2.5 values for areas with multiple monitor overlaps in a day
 - c. $\text{wgtd PM2.5} = PM_1 \left(\frac{\text{int area}_1}{\text{agg area}} \right) + \text{Mean}(PM_2 + PM_3 + \dots + PM_i) \left(\frac{\text{int area}_2}{\text{agg area}} \right) + \dots + PM_n \left(\frac{\text{int area}_n}{\text{agg area}} \right)$
- 5) From these, we should have area-weighted PM2.5 for each date and tract